WHO study on Indian teenage girls

42. SHRI RAMA MUNI REDDY SIRIGIREDDY:
SHRIMATI N.P. DURGA:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that according to the WHO study, the Indian teenage girls in the age group of 12-16 years are becoming increasingly susceptible to a disease known as polycystic ovarian syndrome;

(b) if so, the salient features of the study carried out by the WHO; and

(c) the action taken by Government on the study?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA): (a) No such study was supported by WHO in India.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Post of publicity assistants lying vacant in AIIMS

43. SHRI VIJAY SINGH YADAV: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) Whether it is a fact that Group 'B' posts of Publicity Assistants in the All India Institute of Medical Sciences, New Delhi are lying vacant since a very long period as a result of which, publicity as well as editing work is badly suffering;

(b) Whether the candidates who had applied for the said posts have been waiting for their interview call etc.; and

(c) If so, why are the AIIMS authorities are dithering in filling up the said posts?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA): (a) to (c) No, Sir. There is no post of Publicity Assistant in AIIMS, New Delhi. However there are two vacant posts of Publication Assistant one each for Hindi and English at the Institute. The recruitment process for filling up these posts was initiated, as a response to which 209 candidates had applied. However in the meantime a decision has been taken to

consider restructuring of the cadre of Public Relations. As a result, the recruitment process for filling up of the above two posts has been kept in abeyance till the Publicity cadre is restructured. However due to the non-filling of the posts, the work of publicity as well as editing have not suffered.

Prevention of flurosis

†44. SHRI MOTILAL VORA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether government are aware that a large number of people in several parts of the country including Rajasthan are becoming older prematurely due to the fatal disease of Fluorosis;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken by Government for prevention of the disease so far and the result thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA): (a) and (b) Fluorosis is a problem in 19 states of the country, including Rajasthan. The disease manifests itself in three forms:

(i) Dental fluorosis, which is mottling of teeth.

(ii) Skeletal fluorosis, which results in stiffness in spines and joints.

(iii) Non-Skeletal flurosis, which primarily affects the soft tissues in the body.

(c) Fluorosis can be combated by provision of safe drinking water. The Government of India supplements the efforts of the State Governments/Union Territories by providing funds under the Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme (ARWSP) and Prime Minister's Gramodaya Yojana (PMGY) - Rural Drinking Water for tackling quality related problems and sustainability issues in respect of rural drinking water supply. Department of Drinking Water Supply is involved in collecting data on Fluorosis endemicity in the states. Along with Department of Drinking Water Supply, UNICEF has supplied ion-meters to different states for estimation of Fluoride in drinking water. National

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.